

CAMELFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending
31st December, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the Camelford Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Public Health Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1946, as per instructions set out in Circular 13/47, England, M.O.H. 13/3/47.

The Report has been constructed from the records handed over by Dr. J. Sluglett, the late Medical Officer of Health of this District, who resigned at the end of 1946.

Social Conditions and General Characteristics.

There is very little fresh to report under this heading. The District is settling down gradually to post-war conditions.

In spite of extremely bad weather conditions during the summer, the health of the district remained generally satisfactory, this being especially so with regard to infectious diseases. There was no epidemic of any notifiable disease during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation of the child population continued at a high level, being approximately 80%, and no cases of diphtheria occurred in the District.

The percentage of children vaccinated against Smallpox, however, is not so satisfactory, being only about 35%. As the incidence of this serious disease in the country is increasing, it is to be hoped that more parents will protect their children by having them vaccinated.

The population is very little different to last year. But this must not be taken to represent the Summer population. During the Summer months, the influx of visitors increases the population by several thousands. This is very noticeable in the Coastal Area and shows that the Cornish Coastal Area is getting more popular every year as a resort for visitors.

1945	Total Rateable Value	£37,886
1946	„ „	£39,701
1945	Penny Rate Product	£158 15 1
1946	„ „	£177 9 6

Deaths.	All causes	M	F
	Respiratory Tuberculosis	2	—
	Cancer of stomach & duodenum	1	—
	" " breast		7
	" " buc : cas : œsoph :	1	—
	" " all other sites	2	4
	Diabetes	1	2
	Intracran. vasc. lesions	6	6
	Heart Disease	20	24
	Other circulatory diseases	2	3
	Bronchitis	2	—
	Pneumonia	4	2
	Other respiratory diseases	1	2
	Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	1	—
	Other digestive diseases	2	—
	Nephritis	2	1
	Prem. Birth	2	—
	Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis.	1	1
	Road Traffic Accidents	2	—
	Other violent causes	2	—
	All other causes	1	7

		TOTAL	114
Death rate per 1,000 population			15.6
LIVE BIRTHS:	Legitimate	60	52
	Illegitimate	4	4
		Total	120
Birth rate per 1,000 population			16.7
STILL BIRTHS	...	...	Nil
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR	Legitimate	3	1
	Illegitimate	1	—
		Total	5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births			41.7

CANCER.—The number of deaths from Cancer, 15, shows a slight decrease on last year, when the number was 18. Unfortunately this is all too high now.

HEART DISEASE.—This shows an increase, 44 for this year as against 33 for the previous report.

Housing.

This District, like many more, has suffered from shortage of suitable houses.

Eight houses have been erected under the Agricultural Housing Scheme, and new houses have already been built and are let at St. Breward. Houses are nearing completion at Delabole and Camelford, and others will be erected at Tintagel and Boscastle. More and quicker progress could be made, were it not for the shortage of materials.

The Housing Rural Workers Act did much good in the District, and was the means of renovating and making good many Rural Houses which would otherwise have become derelict and fallen into decay.

I think the question of smaller houses for aged couples might be considered, who for many reasons would not require a three-bedroomed house.

The Housing Survey, which is now nearing completion, will show that there are many houses in a low category.

Water.

Analyses, Bacteriological and Chemical, were made of all the Main Supplies which come within the Council's area and the Analyst's Reports are as follows:

- CAMELFORD & ST. BREWARD.—The purity continues satisfactory.
- NORTH CORNWALL JOINT WATER BOARD.—The purity is satisfactory.

Many of the small Hamlets should be better served both regarding water and drainage. Some of these places still rely on wells, etc.



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Drainage and Sewerage.

Conditions of Sewerage in some of the Parishes are very bad. This applies especially to Delabole with St. Teath, Tintagel, Boscastle and St. Brevard. These conditions have been reported upon in various Reports in the past, and it is gratifying to know that at last there is something being done in this matter, and we understand that as this Report goes to print, plans are being prepared for submission to the Ministry.

Tuberculosis

New Cases and Mortality during 1946.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	..						
1	...	...						
5	...	...						
15	...	...	1	2			2			
25	...	...		1						
35	...	...						
45	...	...		1						
55	...	...						
65 and upwards	...	...						
Totals			1	4			2			

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1946.

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Hospital Admission.	Total Deaths.
Dysentery	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	...	...	...	5	"	"
Malaria	...	...	...	1	"	"
Measles	...	...	...	4	"	"
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	Nil	"	"
Pnenmonia	...	...	...	5	"	"
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	Nil	"	"
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	Nil	"	"
Whooping Congh	...	...	...	16	"	"

(The above Infectious Disease Table shows a good record.)

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. B. Miller

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Chambers, Camelford,
22nd July, 1947.

